

EASTER SATURDAY

“The Vigil of Easter”

March 30, 2024

AS WE GATHER

Our journey following Jesus to the Cross has ended. Christ's Work on the Cross is finished. On this Holy Saturday, we wait, watch, and pray. Our attention this evening is focused on Jesus' Burial and coming Resurrection. We watch as Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea bury Jesus in a new Tomb. We see that Jesus' Words spoken to Nicodemus in John 3 are bearing fruit. Nicodemus has followed Jesus and is born again from above as a new creation. On this Easter Vigil, we remember our Baptism, and we remember when we were born again by Water and the Spirit and made Christ's new Creation.

The Easter Vigil “setting” is one of faith-filled anticipation. The Sanctuary lights are dimmed as the Congregation “recalls” the Actions and Promises of God in the Scriptures as we prepare for the joyful proclamation: Christ is Risen! Our Service begins in the Narthex with each worshipper receiving a candle to be lighted by the Christ Candle; and then our lights follow Christ' Light into Worship and into the world.

For the convenience of all worshipers at St. John, we have:

- **Large-Print Bulletins and Hymnals**
- **A Quiet Room** for families needing to take their child(ren) out of worship, located at the back (left side) of church, with a large window and speakers, so that families may still see and hear the Worship Service
- **Restrooms** located at the back of the Church in the Narthex
- **Activity bags for children** which are available in the Narthex, hanging on “Ginny the Giraffe”. Children may take the pictures they color.
Please return books, crayons and bags to “Ginny”.

(Please ask an Usher to direct you to any of the above)



St. John Ev. Lutheran Church
and Day Care & Development Center
4850 S. Lake Drive Cudahy, WI 53110
www.stjohncudahy.org

SERVICE OF LIGHT

Pastor: In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord, on this most Holy Night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from Death to Life, we are gathered here in vigil and prayer. This is the Passover of the Lord in which, by hearing His Word and celebrating His Sacraments, we share in His Victory over death.

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, You are like a refiner's fire, and Your Spirit enkindles the hearts of Your faithful people with the Fire of Your love. Bless, we implore You, this New Flame and those who keep this joyful Easter Festival that, burning with desire for life with You, we may be found rightly prepared to share in the Feast of Light which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

The Pastor traces the cross on the candle while saying:

Pastor: Christ Jesus, the same yesterday, today, and forever, the Beginning and the Ending,

then traces the Greek letters Alpha and Omega on the candle while saying:

Pastor: the Alpha and the Omega.

He traces the year on the candle, saying:

Pastor: His are Time and Eternity; His are the Glory and Dominion, now and forever.

He puts the five wax nails into the candle, saying:

Pastor: By His Wounds we have healing both now and forever. Amen.

Then, lighting the candle from the newly kindled fire, he says:

Pastor: May the Light of Christ, Who is Risen in Glory from the dead, scatter all the darkness of our hearts and minds.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty and most Merciful God, pour out on us Your abundant Blessing that all who in true faith share this night in joyful celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead may be filled with Your Heavenly Benediction. Once we were in darkness, but now we are in the Light, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

*All light their candles from the Paschal Candle and then follow the candle bearer in procession into the darkened church.
At the entrance of the nave,*

Pastor: The Light of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

When the candle bearer reaches the middle of the nave,

Pastor: The Light of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

When the candle bearer arrives at the candle stand, he turns to face the congregation.

After all have reached their places,

Pastor: The Light of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: Rejoice now, all you Heav'nly Choirs of Angels; rejoice now, all creation; sound forth, Trumpet of Salvation, and proclaim the Triumph of our King. Rejoice too, all the Earth, in the radiance of the Light now poured upon you and made brilliant by the brightness of the everlasting King; know that the ancient darkness has been forever banished. Rejoice, O Church of Christ, clothed in the brightness of this Light; let all this House of God ring out with rejoicing, with the praises of all God's faithful people.

PREFACE DIALOGUE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.



Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

EASTER PROCLAMATION

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places, with all our heart and mind and voice, praise You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty Everlasting God, and Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. For He is the very Paschal Lamb Who offered Himself for the sin of the world, Who has cleansed us by the shedding of His Precious Blood. This is the night when You brought the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt and led them through the Red Sea on dry ground. This is the night when all who believe in Christ are delivered from bondage to sin and are restored to life and immortality. This is the night when Christ, the Life, Arose

from the dead. The seal of the grave is broken and the morning of the new creation breaks forth out of night. Oh, how wonderful and beyond all telling is Your Mercy toward us, O God, that to redeem a slave You gave Your Son. How Holy is this night when all wickedness is put to flight and sin is washed away. How Holy is this night when innocence is restored to the fallen and joy is given to those downcast. How Blessed is the night when man is reconciled to God in Christ. Holy Father, accept now the evening sacrifices of our thanksgiving and praise. Let Christ, the True Light and Morning Star, shine in our hearts, He Who gives Light to all creation, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

All may extinguish their candles at this time. The Paschal Candle remains lighted throughout the service. A few lights in the nave may be turned on.

(please sit)

+ SERVICE OF READINGS +

Pastor: In this most Holy Night our Savior, Christ the Lord, broke the power of death and by His Resurrection brought Life and Salvation to all creation. Let us praise the Lord, for He truly keeps His Word. The Sun of Righteousness has dawned upon us who have sat in darkness and in the shadow of death.

THE CREATION

Reader: *A reading from Genesis, chapters one and two.*

ESV 0001

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, through Your Word and Spirit You most wonderfully created all things, and through the Word made flesh You brought new life to fallen humanity. Grant that in Your Mercy we may be conformed to the image of Him Who shares fully in our humanity, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

THE FLOOD

Reader: *A reading from Genesis, chapters seven, eight, and nine.*

ESV 0006

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: Let us pray.

O Lord, You kill and You raise to life; You brought the flood upon a wicked and perverse generation, and yet You saved faithful Noah and his family in the Ark. Keep us in safety in the Ark of Christ's Body, the Church, that Your

Mercy may come to its fullness and Your Salvation be preached to the ends of the Earth; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

THE TESTING OF ABRAHAM

Reader: *A reading from Genesis, chapter 22.*

ESV 0019

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, since You promised faithful Abraham that he would be the father of a great multitude, You provided a substitute ram to be sacrificed for his son Isaac. In the fullness of time, You sent Your Son, the Lamb Who takes away the sin of the world, to lay down His Life that we might live as faithful children of Abraham. Grant to all people a living trust in Your Mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE AT THE RED SEA

Reader: *A reading from Exodus, chapters 14 and 15.*

ESV 0066

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, You once delivered Your people Israel from bondage under Pharaoh and led them by a pillar of cloud and fire through the Red Sea to safety. Grant that we may so follow Christ that through the Waters of Baptism we may daily die and rise with Him and walk in safety through the wilderness of this life until we see Your Salvation through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

SALVATION OFFERED FREELY TO ALL

Reader: *A reading from Isaiah, chapter 55.*

ESV 0731

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, by Your Word You created and sustain all things, and by Your Spirit You renew Your Creation. Grant now the Water of Life to all who thirst for You that we may bring forth abundant fruit to Your Glory; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

A NEW HEART AND A NEW SPIRIT

Reader: *A reading from Ezekiel, chapter 36.*

ESV 0859

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty and Everlasting God, by the Death and Resurrection of Your Son You cleansed our hearts and put a new Spirit within us. Grant that all who are brought to newness of life in the fellowship of the Body of Christ may show forth in our lives what we confess with our lips; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

GOD'S FAITHFULNESS TO ISRAEL

Reader: *A reading from Deuteronomy, chapter 31.*

ESV 0204

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, the exaltation of the humble and the strength of the righteous, You taught Your people through Your holy servant Moses to sing Your sacred songs and delivered to them on Sinai the Law that still directs us. Display in all nations the fullness of Your power that, Judgement on sin and evil may be in all severity, but as we come to faith and receive Your Forgiveness, terror may turn to joy and fear of punishment may be transformed into a new life of righteousness and service; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

THE VALLEY OF DRY BONES

Reader: *A reading from Ezekiel, chapter 37.*

ESV 0860

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, Your Son came as the Son of Man to breathe His Word and Spirit upon the dry, dead bones of Adam's children. Grant that we may hear Your Holy Word, receive Your Spirit, and rise each day from the death of sin to live in newness of life before You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

JOB CONFESSES THE REDEEMER

Reader: *A reading from Job, chapter 19.*

ESV 0506

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, our great Redeemer, in the Sacrifice of Your Son You put to death our wretched flesh and in His Rising restored our life. Grant that we may always cling to Christ by faith in this life that at the last we may rejoice to stand in our own flesh and see You Face to face; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

JONAH PREACHES TO NINEVEH

Reader: *A reading from Jonah, chapter three.*

ESV 0921

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, as the prophet Jonah spent three days in the belly of the great fish, so Your Son Jesus spent three days in the belly of the Earth. Grant us repentance to embrace our death in Him through Holy Baptism and to proclaim His victory over sin and death to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Reader: *A reading from Zephaniah, chapter three.*

ESV 0939

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Look in mercy, O Lord, upon Your faithful people, and by Word and Spirit bring to completion that Good Work which You have begun in us. Gather in Your people that all the world may see and know that what has been cast down is raised up and what has grown old is made new, until the Work You have begun in us is brought to its Joyful Fulfillment in the Day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

THE FIERY FURNACE

Reader: *A reading from Daniel, chapter three.*

ESV 0878

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, Your Son protected faithful Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace of the king. Grant us protection in our time of testing that we would boldly confess Your Name, reject all false worship, and live and die in confidence, knowing that we are safe in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

REMEMBRANCE OF HOLY BAPTISM

Pastor: On this holiest of nights, the whole Church of our Lord Jesus Christ recalls His Death and Burial, rejoicing with great joy in the Gospel of His Glorious and mighty Resurrection from the dead. The Apostle Paul says: Do you not know that all of us who have been Baptized into Christ Jesus were Baptized into His Death? We were buried therefore with Him by Baptism into Death, in order that, just as Christ was Raised from the dead by the Glory of the Father, we too might walk in Newness of Life. For if we have been united with Him in a Death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a Resurrection like His. We know that our old self was crucified with Him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with Him. We know that Christ being Raised from the Dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. For the death He died He died to sin, once for all, but the life He lives He Lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty and Eternal God, according to Your strict Judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great Mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted the Waters of Baptism to be a Blessed Flood and a lavish washing away of sin.

We pray that You would behold us all according to Your boundless Mercy and bless us with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this Saving Flood all sin in us, which has been inherited from Adam, and which we ourselves have committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that we be kept safe and secure in the Holy Ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your Name at all times with a

fervent spirit and a joyful confidence, so that, with all believers in Your Promise, we would inherit Eternal Life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Do you renounce the devil?

All: Yes, I renounce him.

Pastor: Do you renounce all his works?

All: Yes, I renounce them.

Pastor: Do you renounce all his ways?

All: Yes, I renounce them.

Pastor: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth?

All: Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son?

All: Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was Crucified, Died and was Buried; He Descended into Hell; the third day He Rose again from the dead; He Ascended into Heaven and Sits at the Right Hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to Judge the living and the dead.

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

All: Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

+ SERVICE OF PRAYER +

LITANY OF THE RESURRECTION

Pastor: O Lord,

All: have mercy.

Pastor: O Christ,

All: have mercy.

Pastor: O Lord,

All: have mercy.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

All: hear us.

Pastor: Paschal Lamb, Who was offered for us and has taken away the sin of the world,

All: have mercy on us.

Pastor: Who was Crucified for our transgressions and Raised for our justification,

All: have mercy on us.

Pastor: Who foretold Your passion saying, "The Son of Man must be Crucified and on the third day Rise again,"
All: have mercy on us.

Pastor: Who destroyed death by dying, and by rising to life again brought life and immortality to Light,
All: have mercy on us.

Pastor: Whose Resurrection was first announced by an Angel to the women,
All: have mercy on us.

Pastor: Who appeared to Mary Magdalene and was worshiped by her,
All: have mercy on us.

Pastor: Who revealed Yourself to the two Disciples on the Emmaus road and made Yourself known to them in the Scriptures and in the breaking of the bread,
All: have mercy on us.

Pastor: Who appeared to the Disciples, bestowing on them Your Peace and Your Spirit,
All: have mercy on us.

Pastor: Who showed Your wounded Hands and Side to the Apostle Thomas that he too might believe,
All: have mercy on us.

Pastor: Who appeared to seven Disciples on the Sea of Tiberias, bringing a miraculous catch of fish,
All: have mercy on us.

Pastor: Who appeared to Peter and to the Twelve, to over 500 disciples, to James and to all the Apostles, and to Paul on the Damascus road,
All: have mercy on us.

Pastor: Who commissioned Your Church to make disciples of all nations by Baptizing and teaching them,
All: have mercy on us.

Pastor: By Your Glorious Resurrection from the dead,
All: good Lord, deliver us.

Pastor: By Your Victory over sin and death,
All: good Lord, deliver us.

Pastor: By the Majesty of Your Risen Body,
All: good Lord, deliver us.

Pastor: We poor sinners implore You
All: to hear us, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: That we may daily die and rise with You in our Baptism and walk in the freedom of Your Forgiveness,
All: grant us, good Lord.

Pastor: That we may set our minds on things above and not on earthly things,
serving others as we have been served by You,

All: grant us, good Lord.

Pastor: That we may dwell with You forever in the New Creation as citizens of the
heavenly Jerusalem, together with all the saints,

All: grant us, good Lord.

Pastor: Christ, the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world,

All: have mercy on us.

Pastor: Christ, the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world,

All: have mercy on us.

Pastor: Christ, the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world,

All: grant us Your Peace.

Pastor: O Lord,

All: have mercy.

Pastor: O Christ,

All: have mercy.

Pastor: O Lord,

All: have mercy. Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

EASTER ACCLAMATION

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is Risen

All: He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

The Altar Candles may now be lighted from the Paschal Candle. Lights in the church are turned on, bells may be rung, the chancel may be decorated, and the Altar may be prepared for the Sacrament while the congregation sings the Hymn of Praise.

THIS IS THE FEAST (sung)

LSB 155

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb Who was slain,

Whose Blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb Who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, You made this most Holy night to shine with the Glory of the Lord's Resurrection. Preserve in us the spirit of adoption which You have given so that, made alive in body and soul, we may serve You purely; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

HOLY GOSPEL



Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-seventh chapter.

All: Glory to You, O Lord.

⁵⁷When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a Disciple of Jesus. ⁵⁸He went to Pilate and asked for the Body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. ⁵⁹And Joseph took the Body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud ⁶⁰and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away. ⁶¹Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

⁶²Next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate ⁶³and said, "Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while He was still alive, 'After three days I will rise.' ⁶⁴Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest His Disciples go and steal Him away and tell the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last fraud will be worse than the first."

⁶⁵Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can." ⁶⁶So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

OFFERING (*brought to the Altar*)

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

LSB 194

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.



Pastor: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

All: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: *“Take, eat; this is My ✠ Body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”*

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: *“Drink of it, all of you; this Cup is the New Testament in My ✠ Blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”*

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

Pastor: As often as we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim the Lord's Death, until He Comes.

All: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

LORD'S PRAYER

All: Our Father Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory forever and ever. Amen.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: Amen. (sung)

LSB 163

AGNUS DEI (sung)

LSB 163

**All: Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

DISTRIBUTION:

All who Commune receive the true Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.

Therefore, each one must take seriously the responsibility to examine oneself:

- To acknowledge oneself as a sinner and repent of one's sins.
- To trust Jesus as one's Savior for forgiveness and submit to Him as Lord.
- To believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Sacrament, that His true Body and Blood are received in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine.
- To ask the Holy Spirit to assist in living a moral and obedient life to glorify God.

St. John, Cudahy is a member of the SELC District of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (LCMS). Communing here implies agreement with the teachings and practices of the LCMS. Questions? Please speak with Pastor.

*[Please follow the instructions of the Usher. Exit the pew down the center aisle.
As you approach the Altar Rail, if you desire the Individual Cup of Wine, please take one with you.
Stand or kneel at the Altar Rail. Receive the Wafer, then receive the Wine either from the
Common Cup or the Cup you brought. If you have selected the Individual Cup,
please discard the cup in the container on the side aisle as you return down the outside aisle to your pew.]*

+ DISTRIBUTION HYMNS +

HYMN *"Lord Jesus Christ You Have Prepared"*

LSB 622

- 1 Lord Jesus Christ, You have prepared, this Feast for our salvation;
 it is Your Body and Your Blood, and at Your invitation
 as weary souls, with sin oppressed, we come to You for needed rest,
 for comfort, and for pardon.
- 2 Although You did to Heav'n ascend, where angel hosts are dwelling,
 and in Your Presence they behold, Your Glory, all excelling,
 and though Your people shall not see, Your Glory and Your Majesty
 till dawns the Judgment morning,
- 3 Yet, Savior, You are not confined, to any habitation;
 but You are present even now, here with Your congregation.
 Firm as a Rock this Truth shall stand, unmoved by any daring hand
 or subtle craft and cunning.
- 4 We eat this Bread and drink this Cup, Your precious Word believing,
 that Your True Body and Your Blood, our lips are here receiving.
 This Word remains forever true; all things are possible with You,
 for You are Lord Almighty.
- 5 Though reason cannot understand, yet faith this truth embraces:
 Your Body, Lord, is even now, at once in many places.
 I leave to You how this can be; Your Word alone suffices me;
 I trust its truth unfailing.
- 6 Lord, I believe what You have said; help me when doubts assail me.
 Remember that I am but dust, and let my faith not fail me.
 Your Supper in this vale of tears, refreshes me and stills my fears
 and is my priceless Treasure.
- 7 Grant that we worthily receive, Your Supper, Lord, our Savior,
 and, truly grieving for our sins, may prove by our behavior,
 that we are thankful for Your Grace, and day by day may run our race,
 in holiness increasing.
- 8 For Your consoling Supper, Lord, be praised throughout all ages!
 Preserve it, for in ev'ry place, the world against it rages.
 Grant that this Sacrament may be, a blessed comfort unto me,
 when living and when dying.



Text: Public domain

- 1 Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh . . . sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
- 2 Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Oh . . . sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
- 3 Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Oh . . . sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
- 4 Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb?
Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb?
Oh . . . sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb?
Text: Public domain


Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, for our redemption You gave Your only-begotten Son to the death of the Cross and by His Glorious Resurrection delivered us from the power of the enemy. Grant that all our sin may be drowned through daily repentance and that day by day we may arise to live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: The Almighty and Merciful Lord, the Father, the  Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Christ is Risen!

All: He is Risen, Indeed!

Acknowledgments

Vigil of Easter from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.

THOSE WHO SERVE

Officiant: Rev Phillip DeVries

Elder on Duty:

Sat: Scott Lucas

Sun: Mark Baggenstoss

Sunday Ushers:

Pete Brandstrom

Don Flemming

Organist:

Sat: Kristi DeVries

Sun: Betty Johnson

Altar Guild:

Upkeep:

Sat: Laura Lucas

Sun: Lynn Anderson

IN OUR PRAYERS WE REMEMBER...

- † friends of our family of Faith: George Edward, Chayse Fritsch, Jamie Rick Charlie Jahn, and Mike Wensen
- † for Stephen Nadolinski who is deployed to Iraq



LILY SPONSORS

Marie McGearry
Paulette Schmadl
Keith & Jean Belter
Elaine Wasicka
Dorrene Krueger
Lynn Anderson
Mark & Tracy Baggenstoss
Emery & Pat Mueller
Yvonne Gast
Alice Grant



Darwin & Chery Pavlik
Judy Mathews
Donna Munnik
Lynne Hahn
Roy & Pat Lemmer
Scott & Laura Lucas
Bob & Denise Roszak
Monty & Karen Kocourek
Mike & Patsy Eade
Jerry & Julie Wahl
Charlie & Carolyn Baranowski



Judy Phipps
Ron Wield
Peter & Anne Brandstrom
Gene & CynDee Kroll
Carol Steinke
Greg & Jackie Jakus
Sheri & Lee Meyer
Dorcas Society
Jeff & Dawn Monroe
Marta Schultz



WHEELCHAIR NEEDED

If you or someone you know has a large wheelchair that is in good condition and is no longer needed, please consider donating it to our Church. Our current wheelchairs are in need of repair. Please contact the church office at 414-481-0520 to make arrangements. Thank you.



DORCAS MEETING: APRIL 3

The next meeting for the Dorcas Society will be on Wednesday, April 3, at **6:30pm**. All women are invited. SaDonna and Dorrene will be hosting. Hope to see you all there.

VBS INFORMATION

There will be a "Kick Off Training" session for ALL Volunteers on Thursday, April 4 from **6-8pm**. Please RSVP to Pat Lemmer at 414-810-0870.

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE FOR LAST WEEK
Wednesday Lenten Service: 54 Weekend Worship 106

FINANCIAL POSITION FOR MARCH 2024

GENERAL FUND			
	Month to Date		FY to Date
Received:	\$	25,336.43	\$ 256,006.50
Obligations:	\$	27,811.29	\$ 236,052.06
Balance:	\$	(2,474.86)	\$ 19,954.44
Beginning Fiscal Year General Fund Balance	\$		25,000.00
YTD General Fund Balance	\$		44,954.44

BIBLICAL GIVING - Proverbs 19:17

Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed.

PARSONAGE WINDOWS

Thank you for your generosity. We have 2 windows remaining on our "House of Windows." Once they have been funded, we will proceed to Phase II.

ELECTRONIC GIVING

The Easter season presents a wonderful opportunity for St. John to thank those individuals and families that support the Church throughout the year with their time, talent and financial contributions. This is also a good opportunity to extend a warm welcome to our new and returning congregation members. We hope that you also will be generous with your time and financial support. To assist everyone in making consistent offerings that are so important to St. John, we offer the option of giving electronically. Please contact the Church office for more information.
(414-481-0520)

"DISCOVERING GOD'S VISION FOR YOUR LIFE"

A new Bible Study starts Sunday, April 7 at 10:30am and Monday, April 8 at 6:30pm. The first week participants will take a spiritual gifts inventory. The inventory is taken the first week so as not to bias your response to the inventory questions which would compromise the validity of your inventory scores. If you cannot be present either Sunday the 7th or Monday the 8th, please call Roy Lemmer at 414-810-0870 to make other arrangements.

REVELATION BIBLE STUDY

Begins Again! Starting on Thursday, April 11 at 1:30pm, Pastor Krueger will continue the study of the Book of Revelation. New students are always welcome to join the tenured class members. Bring your own Bible or one will be provided. Refreshments always are on hand. The first topic will be Satan, the Devil, the Evil one.

DORCAS WOMEN'S CELEBRATION SET UP: APRIL 30

Help is needed from the men on Tuesday, April 30 at **2:00pm** for set up. Also, on Wednesday, May 1, for men to help serve and clear up for our celebration festivities.

PROJECT CONCERN'S ANNUAL 9-PIN TAP BOWLING FUNDRAISER

Project Concern's annual 9-pin tap bowling fundraiser will take place on Sunday, April 21, 2024 at South Shore Bowl. Join in the fun and support the pantry!

Registration starts on the day of the event at **11am**, with bowling at noon. The fee is \$25 per person (up to 6 bowlers per team) and includes bowling, pizza, cash prizes, and the opportunity to participate in some great raffles. Contact Dan at South Shore Bowl by phone at 414-481-0200, or by email at southshorebowl@gmail.com to reserve your spot.

DORCAS WOMEN'S CELEBRATION: WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

The Dorcas Women's Celebration will be held on Wednesday, May 1 starting at **5:30pm**. Tickets are \$18 for adult, and \$6 for children. They will be sold before and after Worship Services. *We will be collecting food pantry items for Project Concern.* Our entertainment this year will be an Elvis impersonator. The theme for the celebration will be Hawaiian.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED – ST. JOHN DAYCARE VAN DRIVERS

Day Care is seeking volunteers to drive the van in the mornings (7:45am-8:30am), to take children from Day Care to Cudahy Schools, and also to pick up from schools in the afternoon (2:00pm-3:30pm), and bring to our Day Care. Volunteers must have their driving record on file in the Day Care Office. Karen Erickson our Day Care Director can submit your drivers license number to the state. It can take a couple weeks to get back the needed information. Please contact Karen Erickson 414-482-0554 or stop in to see her to get more information.



ST. JOHN CHILD DAY CARE AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER

How can you help? Come read stories to the children, or share a talent with the children (play an instrument, play a special game, do a cooking activity, etc.). You can share your knowledge with the children (occupation, cultural, ethnic, etc.). How about helping by fixing broken equipment or donating items from the donation tree. Any of these ideas can bring interesting new information to the children, or suggest something that you would want to do to help out. Contact Karen at 414-482-0554.

OUR ST. JOHN DAY CARE HAS JOB OPENINGS – WE NEED YOU

Maybe you, or someone you know would want to teach and help children. Are you willing to be certified to work with and teach children? Part-time positions are available. Call 414-482-0554 and speak to Karen Erickson for more information.

GOD BLESS YOU ON YOUR CELEBRATION...

...of birth Mar 31 Fran Mahn Dawn Monroe 	...of baptism Mar 30 James Barton Rachel Page Apr 01 Virginia Antonia-Quintanilla Jean Schmidt Apr 02 Payton Lucas Apr 04 Gene Kroll Carl Krueger Apr 05 Marilyn Kelso	...of marriage Mar 30 Adam & Allison Christian 
--	---	--

*If your celebration day is incorrect (or doesn't appear)
Please notify the Church Office at 414-481-0520.*

LWML ZONE 1 SPRING RALLY: APRIL 20

The LWML Zone 1 Spring Rally will be held on Saturday, April 20, from **9am-11am** at Lutheran Chapel of the Cross, 3353 S. Whitnall Ave. A special presentation will be given by Deaconess Grace Rao about the ministry of "A Place of Refuge" for WOMEN who have experienced PHYSICAL OR EMOTIONAL ABUSE, or are seeking help to keep a WANTED PREGNANCY rather than ABORTION. If you are able, "Gifts From the Heart" will be collecting: All or Tide Unscented laundry Detergent, Unscented Bounce Dryer Sheets, and select-a-size Paper Towels.

RAISERIGHT NEWS!!

Our St. John Day Care is a part of a pilot program designed to get more people to use RaiseRight to purchase gift cards. They have been given "re-loadable" cards for Amazon, Starbucks, Pick 'N Save, Target and Walmart. They are available with instructions on how to go to the website to load them with the amount you desire. To order other cards online go to: RaiseRight.com/Enroll and enter the enrollment code: L493D3LE18725. As usual there will be cards available after services. Contact Karen Erickson if you have any questions at 414-482-0554.

CALENDAR

<i>EASTER WEEKEND</i>			
Sat.	30	9:00a 6:30p	Set up for Easter Breakfast Easter Vigil Scripture & Prayer Communion Worship
Sun.	31	8:00a 10:00a	Easter Breakfast Easter Sunday Communion Worship
Mon.	01	6:15p 6:30p	Handbell Practice Adult Bible Study
Tue.	02	7:00a 5:30p	Men's Bible Study (OC) Elders Board Meeting
Wed.	03	9:30a 6:30p	Matthews Sr. Living (SF) Dorcas Society Meeting
Thur.	04	9:00a 9:30a 4:45p 6:30p 7:00p	OC Place Worship Service Day Care Devotions Trustees Board Meeting Evangelism & Stewardship Board Meetings Sheepshead
Fri.	05		
Sat.	06	<i>PROJECT CONCERN WEEKEND</i>	
		3:00p	Communion Worship Service
Sun.	07	9:00a 10:00a 10:30a	Communion Worship Service Coffee Koinonia (<i>Fellowship Time</i>) Adult Bible Study & Sunday School

<u>ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH AND CHILD DAY CARE</u>		
CHURCH 414-481-0520	DAY CARE 414-480-0554	
Office Hours: M-F / 9:00am – 2:00pm	Hours M-F / 6:00am – 5:30pm	
4850 South Lake Drive, Cudahy Wisconsin 53110		
Website: www.stjohncudahy.org	Church email: office.stjohn@yahoo.com	
Rev. Phillip DeVries	Cell: 989-293-4032	Email: pastor.stjohn@yahoo.com
Karen S. Erickson	Day Care Director	Email: stjdaycare@yahoo.com
CynDee Johnson-Kroll	Church Secretary	Email: office.stjohn@yahoo.com
Karen Squiers	Finance Secretary	Email: stjcul@yahoo.com
Lutheran Counseling & Family Services	414-536-8333	www.lcfswi.org